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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A Multimedia Terminating Device for providing multimedia-format-encoded multimedia content transmitted over a communication network and received from a broadband connection comprising:

broadband communication circuitry for receiving the multimedia content encapsulated in a broadband format and extracting the content from the broadband format by stripping broadband protocol format information; and

multimedia-format decoder circuitry coupled to the broadband communication circuitry for receiving the content from the broadband communication circuitry, for decoding the content according to the type of content received and providing the decoded content to at least one user device based on the type of content.

2. (Original) The module of claim 1 wherein the broadband communication circuitry includes cable modem circuitry.

3. (Original) The module of claim 2 wherein the broadband format is DOCSIS.

4. (Original) The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes a digital signal processor.

5. (Original) The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes a graphics processor.

6. (Original) The module of claim 1 wherein the broadband communication circuitry and the decoder circuitry are interconnected using a bus interface between a MAC of the broadband communication circuitry and a MAC of the decoder circuitry.

7. (Original) The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes an audio output.

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8. (Original) The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes at least one video output.

9. (Original) The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes a digital data connection host for connecting an external digital device.

10. (Original) The module of claim 9 wherein the external device is a hard disk drive.

11. (Previously Presented) A method for transporting a digital multimedia content over a broadband network from a central location to one or more subscribers:

converting the digital multimedia content into a digital multimedia content signal at the central location;

formatting the digital content signal into a broadband-transport-format signal;

transporting the broadband-formatted digital content signal toward the subscribers;

receiving the broadband-formatted digital content signal with broadband communication circuitry;

extracting the digital multimedia content from the broadband-transport-format signal by stripping broadband protocol format information;

decoding the digital multimedia content according to the type of content; and

providing the digital multimedia content at one or more outputs according to content type.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the broadband-transport-format signal is a DOCSIS signal.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the broadband communication circuitry is cable modem circuitry.

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14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein one of the outputs is a video output.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein one of the outputs is an audio output.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein one of the outputs is a digital data host output.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising applying DOCSIS features to the broadband-transport-format signal to improve the transport thereof.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein a Dynamic Service Flow MIB is used to reduce jitter.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein Dynamic Channel Change is applied at the broadband communication circuitry to select a transport channel based on bandwidth needed for the type of content contained in the broadband-formatted digital content signal.

20. (Previously presented) A system for transmitting content over a broadband network, comprising:

means for stripping incoming content messages of DOCSIS format information so that the incoming content is left in encoded versions of its native format;

a media access controller coupled to the stripping means for receiving the content in the encoded version of its native format;

means for decoding the incoming content into its native format coupled to the media access controller; and

means for distributing the decoded content in its native format from the decoding means to one or more of a plurality of output ports according to the native format type.

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21. (Previously presented) A system for providing multimedia content over a network, comprising:

means for receiving multiple types of multimedia content at a central location; and

means for formatting the multiple types of content into a broadband format signal, the formatting means being coupled to the means for receiving the multiple types of content and to the network.